

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

HONORING UNITED STATES MARINE CAPTAINS MARK SILVERS AND SEAN
GOBIN

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD
OF MAINE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
July 25, 2012

MR. SPEAKER, I rise today to honor U.S. Marine Captains Mark Silvers and Sean Gobin for their tremendous efforts on behalf of our nation's wounded warriors.

Everyday our men and women in uniform place themselves at great personal risk in order to defend our nation's freedom and security. Captain Silvers and Captain Gobin are two such heroes who decided to continue serving their fellow soldiers after their tours had ended. Moved by the number of service members returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan with debilitating injuries, the two men pledged their efforts to improve the lives of our nation's wounded warriors.

On March 15, 2012, Captain Silvers and Captain Gobin commenced a 2,180 mile hike of the Appalachian Trail to raise funds and awareness of the debilitating injuries our soldiers have suffered while in service to our country. Their journey will come to an end next week at the summit of Mount Katahdin in Baxter State Park. As they travelled through 14 states, Captain Silvers and Gobin have hosted a number of fundraisers at separate VFW posts on behalf of Operation Military Embrace; a nonprofit that advocates on behalf of wounded servicemembers. All of the proceeds from these events will be used to purchase adaptive vehicles for veterans who have sustained multiple amputations in the course of their service in Iraq or Afghanistan.

These men have set a remarkable example for what it means to serve our country. Operation Military Embrace and Warrior Hike remind us all of our enduring responsibility to honor and care for those who have sacrificed so much in defense of our freedom. As the Ranking Member on the Health Subcommittee of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I am pleased to join the chorus of congratulations celebrating the completion of these men's impressive journey.

MR. SPEAKER, please join me in recognizing Captain Silvers and Captain Gobin on achieving so much on behalf of our wounded veterans.